

THE OBSERVER

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Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1710 Sixth Street.

SANTO DOMINGO AND UNCLE SAM.

Uncle Sam's battle line is qualifying for Mr. Kipling's "far-flung" characterization, since it reaches from Santo Domingo to the Philippines, or nearly half way around the globe at its waist line.

In Santo Domingo a population of 620,000 people of assorted colors and temperaments filled with cheap rum and insurrectionary sentiments has been held in check for several days by a mere handful of United States marines who have been sent ashore to put down a rebellion. The supposition is that the marines are finding their task a rather large contract, and nine ships of the navy are said to be hurrying to their relief.

These unfortunate people have been misruled so long that they have lost all respect for law and yield only to force. Possibly they retain a sense of humor which has led them to ask themselves why 600,000 people who are used to fighting and constant bloodshed should stand cowed in the presence of a hundred or so of United States marines who have no extended record of warlike performances. The bullet of a marine is no more fatal, though possibly better aimed, than that of a Dominican insurgent or government soldier, so why should they turn tail before a puny force that has no visible backing near at hand? The more we review the history of the island for the last 40 years, the more we have reason to regret the offended vanity of the late Charles Sumner and the senate majority that followed at his heels, for these prevented a voluntary annexation of the island by request of the Dominican people and government. Senator Sumner felt offended because he thought he should have been privately consulted by President Grant and his advice taken before the annexation proposal was submitted to the senate as a whole.

The treaty was drawn and Santo Domingo promptly ratified it. Then Mr. Sumner opposed it on high moral grounds and brought about a tie vote on the ratification on June 30, 1870. When the defeat of the measure was communicated to President Baez of Santo Domingo, he sent a message of regret to congress which concluded with these words: "The measure will, nevertheless, succeed in the end, for it is a necessity in the progress of humanity, whose unseen agent is Providence itself."

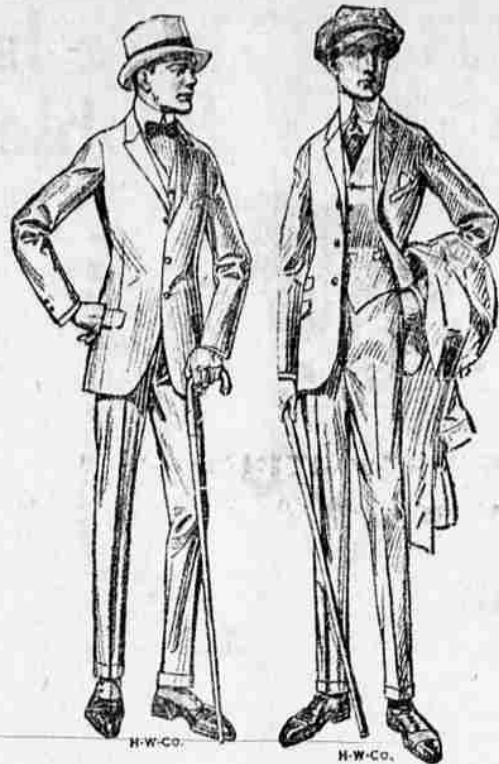
The government of the United States has been slow in learning a lesson of wisdom, and in the meantime foreign intrigue has been busy in creating prejudice against the United States among the Dominican people.

A PASTOR'S QUANDRY.

The rector of a fashionable church in Newark, N. J., has resigned because he could not come to an agreement with the chief members of his congregation as to the kind of sermon he should preach. His references to sin were taken as a personal affront by the prominent worshippers. One member of the vestry advised him that a church would be conducted on the same principles as a grocery store and its patrons given what they want.

This clergyman has encountered the problem that confronts everyone who addresses the public, from pulpit, platform, stage or printed column; a problem that every man faces in his relationships with his friends. The world hates a word. It also is suspicious of flattery. It likes to be told the truth, in general terms, but nothing bites so sharply as the truth that goes straight home in a heaver or a ruler.

The young author, setting about it to write a book, must determine whether he will write what the public wants or what the public needs. In his opinion the public may need utter realism, searching sincerity, the shattering of its illusions. The public, however will not pay its \$1.50 for such matter, as the young author soon



The WELL DRESSED MAN

In not the one who looks all dressed up, but rather the man who buys his clothes with due regard to prevailing styles and attracts attention only because his clothes fit well and are tastefully appropriate.

We are rather proud of the fact that the stocks in our men's store are so well selected that no man can be our customer and not be a well-dressed man.

"Hirsch Wickwire" Suits and "Fidelity" Suits

Enable any man, no matter what his taste or figure, to dress well at a modest cost. Their all-wool fabrics, master tailoring and superb workmanship make them a wise clothes investment. New Spring Suits, Priced \$15.00 to \$30.00

There are checks, stripes, plaids and plain goods in soft and hard finish. A glance at our window will reveal a fine lot of dandy values that will appeal to every man—

We can fit you from our large stock—We carry regular sizes, short sizes, tall sizes and stouts.

N.W. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

OUR JUNE SACRIFICE SALE

Entire Stock of Women's and Misses' High Grade

TAILORED SUITS and COATS

Table with 4 columns of clothing items and prices. Reg. \$9.00 Values \$6.25, Reg. \$12.50 Values \$9.40, Reg. \$13.50 Values \$10.15, Reg. \$15.00 Values \$11.25, Reg. \$17.50 Values \$13.15, Reg. \$20.00 Values \$15.00, Reg. \$22.50 Values \$16.90, Reg. \$25.00 Values \$18.75, Reg. \$27.50 Values \$20.65, Reg. \$30.00 Values \$22.50, Reg. \$32.50 Values \$24.40, Reg. \$35.00 Values \$26.25

discovers. Discouraging is the lot of guide and prophet. We will seek an easy religion, one that explains and condones our frailties rather than assails them. We enjoy becoming aroused over the distant sins of others. Atrocities in the war zone stir our indignation, but the sins of our own city are not such acceptable material for exhortation.

A dressmaker in Portland is being held on a charge of working a young girl on a salary of two dollars a week and forcing the girl to say to the public she was receiving six dollars. The crime is unbearable to be sure, but we want to impress upon the reader the dire effect of this one case against all legitimate business that employs

female help. The one Portland dressmaker's case will be flaunted before everyone in the state with comment, and it should be, but the sentiment it creates should not apply to probably the next case when the employer is doing the best he can to run his business and paying lady help twice the wages demanded by law, but is forced through rules of competition and business to work a few hours a week over the prescribed schedule. Be fair, and when the next case comes up analyze it thoroughly before passing judgment.

It now seems that leather is becoming so scarce a goodly portion of Americans must go unshod. But why is leather scarce? Did we import

huge quantities of leather from the warring nations? Our leather was produced at home and was obtained in South America and Australia, neither of which countries is in trouble. It is a good deal like the paper market, suffering intense manipulation with the war as an excuse for price raising. Congressional investigation into some of these abuses would be greatly appreciated by the American consumer.

The new lumber rates east please La Grande and Wallowa county mills very much. Things are finally coming our way and justice sits on the top-most rung of the ladder when western mills will get a hearing and even a decision in their favor.

Ed. Meyersick writes the Observer stating it is cold in Illinois and that everything is backward in growth. The Garden of Eden would be cold and its vegetation would look like a Mexican desert to Ed. Meyersick after living in the Grande Ronde valley.

A Chicago educator has spoken a word in favor of the especially gifted child, who has remained in the shade while his backward fellow-pupils have been receiving the attention of science lately.

Watch for the climax of that "big squeeze" the Germans are delivering to France at Verdun. Plainly to all who follow that battlefield in the papers something is going to happen to decide the contest in that part very shortly.

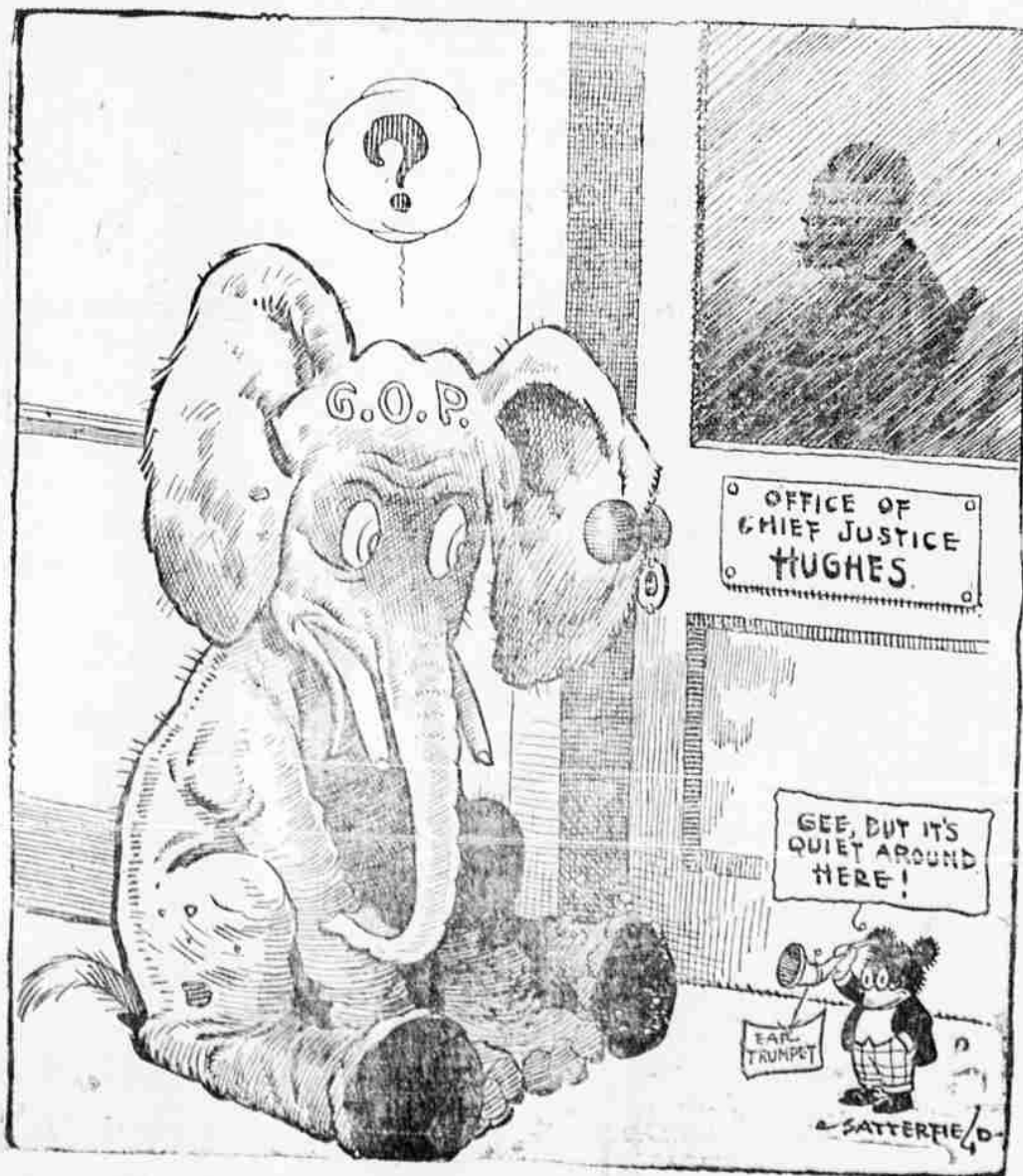
And along with the other news of the day it might be interesting to call your attention to the fact that the Standard Oil company of Ohio declared a 100 per cent dividend the other day. Keep in mind, the Standard Oil Company sells gasoline and other oils.

The government has issued a timely bulletin setting forth the natural advantages of Alaska, and dwellers in these regions will be gratified to learn that the climate up there at this time of year is mild and fair.

From the tone of that Kansas City speech yesterday guess Colonel Roosevelt is still somewhat of a keynoter himself.

A Grafter who uses charity as his blind deserves the contempt of a door-mat thief.

STILL LISTENING!



The Careful man tries to save a little of his earnings each pay day - and puts it in the Bank; he'll be rich some day

THIS PICTURE TELLS ITS STORY BETTER THAN WORDS.

ALL WE WISH TO SAY IS THAT WE HAVE A BANK WHERE YOU CAN PUT YOUR MONEY WHILE IT IS GROWING INTO A FORTUNE. OUR BANK IS A SAFE PLACE FOR YOUR MONEY. WE WILL WELCOME YOU HERE AND TREAT YOU WITH COURTESY. WE WILL GLADLY ADVISE YOU AND ASSIST YOU. COME IN. BANK WITH US.

WE PAY 4 PER CENT INTEREST

6 1/2 % Money for Improved Farm Loans

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON. Capital \$200,000.00, Surplus \$50,000.00, Resources \$1,000,000.00. Fred J. Holmes, President; C. C. Penington, Vice President; F. L. Meyers, Cashier; E. Zundel and H. E. Coolidge, Assistant Cashiers. DIRECTORS: Fred J. Holmes, J. G. Snodgrass, J. F. Conley, C. C. Penington, H. S. Brownton, F. L. Meyers, A. Blokland, A. T. H.H., H. E. Coolidge.